Sachse Amateur Radio Association

# SARA SKYWAVES

W5SRA

APRIL 2020

## MY CORNER OF THE SHACK

*by John Smyder, W5JWS*

These are surely strange times. I have been working from home for just a little over 1 month now and Linda, K5LCS, is not far behind me at 3 weeks. We've joked with each other asking if 'this is what retirement is going to be like, around each other all the time?' I have to say that I am thankful we get along so well and hope that this 'stay home, stay safe' thing is keeping you and yours well and safe.

As mentioned last month, we got a new UHF pair assigned after we noted that there was a repeater in Greenville on the pair originally assigned to us. The W5SRA repeater is on a frequency of 440.3500Mhz, Shift (+), with a PL tone of 110.9.

I've had the chance to do way more in my shack during our stay home time and hope that you have had the same opportunity. I actually cleaned up, which W5UWF pointed out, meant that I had been doing some things to mess it up and can now work some other new projects. And so, I have, albeit they small ones. I took the time to complete my threaded rod j-pole and test. The testing was the fun part. I brought my nanoVNA out and made sure that the 'nanoVNA Saver' was loaded on the shack PC. First I made sure that my nanoVNA was calibrated on the bands I wanted to test and I've started saving those calibrated settings on the internal memories to save me some time. Then it was time to put the antennas up and give them a test.

The 'nanoVNA Saver' software makes it really nice because once your scan is complete you can analyze what the antenna is doing, VSWR, Gain, etc. It is extremely convenient and way easier on the eyes. I ran my threaded rod j-pole and my dual band (U/V) vertical dipole I built. I was very pleased to see the VSWR on both antenna to be less than 1.5:1 across both bands (2m & 70cm). A wonderful tool to have if you are planning to build your own antennas.

I also spent some time rearranging radios in the shack and there is a picture elsewhere in the newsletter of my modest setup. If you are building and have not looked at Anderson PowerPoles, do! Those are extremely wonderful when it comes to having a quick universal connection for power. It should be noted that RACES & ARES recommend that your equipment have these power connections to allow interoperability since radios don't come with the same power connectors.

*Continued on page 2*

## The General Meeting this Thursday, April 23, will be Online!

## Use this Link:

https://meet.google.com/ttq-aftd-jtf

## JOIN US ON THE AIR

**SARA Weekly Information Net**
When: Weekly on Wednesdays, 8:00pm – 8:30pm
Where: N5LOC (145.250, PL 141.3)

**SARA Simplex QSO Net**
When: Every 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:30—8:30pm
Where: 146.400 (Simplex)

The Sachse Amateur Radio Association uses the N5LOC repeater in Sachse, TX:

- Frequency: 145.25 MHz
- Shift: -600 kHz
- PL tone: 141.3

*Continued from page 1*

We have a Ham Radio in the Park planned for April 26th from 1-4pm, of course it may very well be dependent on where we are with the Covid-19 pandemic. As a result of the pandemic the city of Sachse has closed the library until further notice so the Board and I are looking at other ways we can communicate what is going on. If you do Facebook, you can see information and ask questions there (link). If there are others paths of communication opened, I will be sure to send an email to everyone who receives our newsletter.

Storm season is here too so please make sure that you keep your eyes to the skies and be careful with your equipment. I disconnect my antennas from my radios and from power. I have some antenna in my attic that allow me to participate in Skywarn nets should the need arise.

Finally, since we are being asked to practice "Social Distancing", these are great days to get some of the projects you are working on 'written' up for our newsletter. You may not think you have anything to share but, I assure you, that there is probably someone else who would be very interested in what you are building/working on and could learn something from your experiences.

Our April General Meeting will be held via Google Meet (the club has a Google G-Suite for Non-Profits that is the same used by businesses). Our presenter this month is Aaron Hulett (K8AMH) and he will present on the National Traffic System of messaging. A link to join the meeting is later in the newsletter. And don't forget our weekly Information Nets, Wednesday's at 8pm on the N5LOC repeater and don't forget the simplex net which we are switching to once per month, the 3rd Tuesday @ 7:30pm on 146.4MHz.

73, W5JWS – John S

**The General Meeting this Thursday, April 23, will be Online!**

**Use this Link:**
https://meet.google.com/ttq-aftd-jtf

Or dial in by phone +1 609-800-2693 PIN: 457 816 092#

## SARA Club Officers for 2019-2020

The standing 2018-2019 club officers were re-elected for the coming year with the exception of Jeff Lock, N5LOC and John Abbott, KF5FWK who have stepped down this year.

| | |
|---|---|
| President | John Smyder, W5JWS |
| Vice President | Greg Kent, KK6AXF |
| Secretary | Johnnie Young, KG5CQO |
| Treasurer | David Mandala, KG5WFS |
| Public Information Officer | John Briggs, KC6TVF |
| Director at Large | Mark Mantooth, KI5CYA |
| Newsletter Editor | Steve Harbin, W5SOT |

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Apr. 18 Mentor Fest**
Postponed—TBD

**Apr. 23—General Meeting**

Our April General Meeting will be held via Google Meet (the club has a Google G-Suite for Non-Profits that is the same used by businesses). Our presenter this month is Aaron Hulett (K8AMH) and he will present on the National Traffic System of messaging.
https://meet.google.com/ttq-aftd-jtf

**June 12-13 - Ham Com**
At the Plano Event Center

- One General Admission ticket is good for both days of the event.
- Online registration begins October 1, 2019 and ends May 31, 2020 at 11:59 PM.
- Online general admission tickets for adults are $8. Ticket prices are $10 if purchased at the event on the days of the event.

**June 27-28—ARRL Field Day**

This one will likely be different. See the article in this edition for more information.

# SARA Repeater Fund Raiser

**Who we are:** Sachse Amateur Radio Association (SARA). We have members from our surrounding communities: Sachse, Wylie, Murphy, Garland, Rowlett and other local cities.

**Why we exist: Amateur Radio**, also known as **ham radio**, is the use of radio frequency spectrum for purposes of non-commercial exchange of messages, wireless experimentation, self-training, private recreation, radio-sport, contesting, and ***Emergency Communication***. We have events to support the community and teach our membership how to support the community both for emergency and non-emergency ways.

**Events we support are:** Sachse Cars under the Stars, Wylie Championship Rodeo, Sachse Fall Fest, Sachse Red White and Blue Blast, Monthly Sachse Outdoor Warning Siren testing and other events providing radio communication support and more.

**How we practice being ready to support the community in an emergency:** weekly and fortnightly having controlled radio nets both on a repeater and simplex radio networks so that in the event of an emergency we can respond with communications if needed.

**Why is this important:** In the event of a disaster (natural or man-made) cell phone towers may go offline, Police and Fire communications also might go offline or be overwhelmed with calls. **Amateur Radio** is a backup solution in the event of an emergency. An example of this was Puerto Rico in the wake of Hurricane Maria. Most of the island lost power and phone coverage (both land line and cell phone were out). The Red Cross contacted the American Radio Relay League and requested help, "We need 50 of your best radio operators to go down to Puerto Rico.". See https://www.cnn.com/2017/09/27/us/puerto-rico-maria-ham-radio-operators-trnd/index.html for more detail. Now we are not going get hit with a hurricane here in the SARA north Texas area but we could be and have been hit with tornadoes, and large hail storms that have done a lot of damage and have in some cases knocked out communications in the process.

**What are we trying to accomplish:** We are trying to raise money to setup a Sachse Amateur Radio Association owned Radio Repeater. This will give us greater coverage of the local area in the event of an emergency. We have been slowly saving club finds to afford a repeater, but we are a small club, and to date we have not reached out to the local community for assistance. Until recently there have be privately owned repeaters available, but recently one of those repeaters went offline permanently, another has been having issues with interference for technical reasons. So, we are feeling the pressure to get a new repeater online in the community to have good coverage in the event it's needed. We have found a local church that is willing to house the repeater and provide power and 24-hour access to the repeater in the event of problems.

**How you can help:** You can donate to our fund-raising drive, and since we are a 501c3 charitable organization we can give you a receipt that can be used with the IRS. Even small donations will help, if 100 people donate $20 that would help pay for the necessary antenna to cover the community. If 200 people were to donate $40 each, we could afford to put up a tall tower and purchase an even better radio then planned which provide even better coverage for the community on what, right now, is our shoe string budget. It's really up to you, will you help us to help you in the event of an emergency? If so please donate! If you would like more info please contact one of the Board members or email David Mandala at treasurer@sachseradio.org

1 An **amateur radio repeater** is an electronic device that receives a weak or low-level amateur radio signal and retransmits it at a higher level or higher power, so that the signal can cover longer distances without degradation. See: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amateur_radio_repeater

# CW Corner

# CW and QRP

*By Jim Eatman, KG5WAW*

With QRP, the whole game is making the best of a bad situation. QRP HF transceivers typically put out 5 watts or less, and oftentimes the receivers in inexpensive QRP transceivers are less than stellar. It's a prescription for failure. That's the fun of it!

QRP ops need good weak signal modes. FT-8 is one of those modes, but FT-8 requires a CPU and a MODEM. QRP gear is often made to be backpacked for SOTA and other portable operations, so any additional weight and complexity is undesirable. As a result, a lot of QRP gear is CW-only.

When the weather is nice, I oftentimes go to the parks and set up my portable QRP rig. That rig consists of a CW-only HF QRP transceiver, a 10 Ah lithium polymer battery, and a wire antenna. My record from the parks (so far) is 1800 miles – to Vancouver BC – with 2 watts. Could I have accomplished that feat with SSB? Not likely!

What works at 2 watts also confers advantages at higher power levels. CW can magically turn the ubiquitous 100 watt "barefoot" HF rig into a ferocious DX machine.

In the bad old days, CW was a requirement to get a license. That no longer being the case in the U.S., why should a person undergo the agony of learning Morse code? One reason is, CW opens the door to the world of QRP – a world that has its own challenges, and its own little society.

CW makes amateur radio bigger. It gives you more fun places to visit, more opportunities to learn, more people to meet, and more things to see.

Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay were the first people to successfully climb Mt. Everest. When asked why he would want to climb Everest, Sir Edmund is reported to have said, "Because it is there."

## What does it take to become proficient at Morse code?

The answer is, it depends. Some people have more talent for it than others.

For me, it has been a long, slow process. First, I used the Morse code trainer and reader phone aps, and a code oscillator to learn the characters.

Once I got on the air with CW, there were more hurdles. CW ops use abbreviations, which also had to be learned. Not all code sounds the same – there are "dialects". Ops that use straight keys and "bugs" don't sound like ops that use electronic keyers. Straight key senders can be a challenge even to the computerized Morse code readers.

So, what's a reasonable plan to learn Morse code?

One, get a Morse code ap or use an online ap, and learn to read what is essentially machine-sent (perfect) code. Get a code oscillator and practice sending your own code.

Two, once you memorize the characters, set a goal of one CW QSO a day. Scan the bands, find a slow CQ sender, and answer their call. Many ops will slow down when they hear your slow code. Some won't. Don't let anyone or anything discourage you.

Most CW ops still send QSL cards. Send QSL cards out to first-time QSOs, and watch your mailbox. You'll get cards! Use them for encouragement.

Join a CW organization. There are several. QRP and CW are fast friends, and there are QRP groups, too.

Is the effort to learn Morse code worth it? For me, it has been. With CW, I can do as much with 100 watts and a wire as the SSB ops do with 1000 watts and a tower. My 5 watt QRP CW-only rig has taken me 1800 miles from the park, using a simple, portable wire antenna.

Don't wait until you think you are as proficient as the people you hear on the radio. Some of those "seasoned" ops have been sending code for 70 years. They weren't that good when they started, either.

There is no substitute for just getting out there. Be a part of the long history of telegraphy. See you on the bands!

73,

*KG5WAW*

# JOIN THE ARRL

As an ARRL member you support the ranks of thousands of other ham radio enthusiasts shaping the Amateur Radio service today. If you consider yourself an active ham... you need ARRL now. If you are not presently an active ham... let ARRL help you.

As a member of the ARRL, for as little as $49.00 per year, here are some of the benefits you will enjoy:

- *QST* Magazine – your monthly membership journal
- QST online monthly digital edition
- QST Archive and Periodical Search
- Product Review Archive
- Email forwarding
- E-Newsletters – delivered to your inbox
- A voice in the affairs of ARRL and ham radio through locally appointed volunteers
- Publication Specials and on-line course discounts
- Emergency Communication Services
- Technical and Regulatory Information Services
- Operating Awards
- Ham Radio Equipment Insurance Plan Available
- Outgoing Foreign QSL Service

Plus much more!

Take the next step in being an active participant in the future of ham radio. Join the ARRL today!

If you Prefer to Renew by Mail or Phone:

ARRL The national association for AMATEUR RADIO
225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1400 USA
860-594-0200 or Toll-Free 1-888-277-5289

## Try the new W5SRA Repeater!

Good Morning everyone. It has been suggested, that during this time of 'stay home - stay safe', that if we are able, to get on the new repeater (440.350 + PL 110.9) at 10am each day just to chat and check in with each other.

It should be noted that the W5SRA repeater is in a temporary location until we get past this inconvenience and can finalize plans and do the work of getting it in its final location. That said, please understand that coverage may not be optimal at this time.

We've also noted that there is a bit of a delay in the repeater picking up the first syllable or two so, while we investigate that, please key, wait a moment, then put your call out there.

I hope to hear you soon.

W5JWS --

### NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Working on a project that you think the club members would be interested in? Read a good HAM related article somewhere? Send articles to Steve, W5SOT, at: newslettereditor@sachseradio.org

### ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

SARA vice-president Greg Kent, KK6AXF heads up the SARA Activities Committee. Anyone who is willing to help or has ideas may contact Greg, KK6AXF, at kk6axf@gmail.com.

### SARA BRANDED GEAR

We now have two suppliers for SARA gear. Both of these companies have our logo on file.

HamThreads will do hats, shirts, jackets and vests. They can do single items. HamThreads is in Saginaw.
https://www.hamthreads.com

Cactus Awards is local to Wylie and they specialize in Awards, Trophies, Plaques, Engraving and Embroidery as well as Tee -Shirt printing. Minimum order for some clothing is 3.
http://www.cactusawards.com

### SARA NAME BADGES

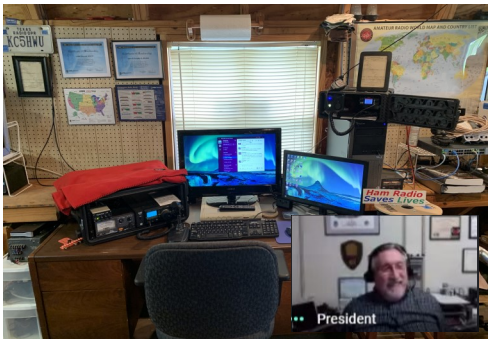
If you need a SARA name badge please go to:
https://namebadge.com/sachse

# Operator Selfies

*John, KC6TVF*

*Mark, KI5CYA*

*Steve W5SOT*




*John W5JWS*

*Larry W5UWF.*

**Since we can't have breakfast pictures, some of the members sent in pictures of them operating their stations.**

*Jim KG5WAW*

## Do you shop at Amazon?

amazonsmile prime

Supporting: Sachse Amateur Radio Association

**Support the Sachse Amateur Radio Association!**

**What is AmazonSmile?**

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from over one million organizations to support.

**How do I shop at AmazonSmile?**

To support SARA, simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device and setup the organization that you want to support. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

HAM★COM

AMATEUR RADIO CONVENTION

## April 5th Update

COVID-19:

On March 30, Ham-Com made the decision to suspend all registrations pending further confirmation from the government, local authorities, and the venue. After extensive communication, we have decided to re-open registrations. Note: Should the show be cancelled, the venue will be rolling our current payments for 2020 towards next year's show. In turn, Ham-Com will be doing the same and rolling all registrations for 2020 forward to 2021. For questions, please reach out to info@hamcom.org.

**www.hamcom.org**

## SHOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED!

Our show times have been extended! Vendors, Flea Market Sellers, and Clubs will now be able to have a full day on Thursday for setup. The show will be open to the public all day Friday and Saturday.

**Set up times:**

June 11, 2020 from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Show Times:**

June 12, 2020 from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

## REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Click Links below for more information

General Admission

Radio Merit Badge

Commercial

Presenters

Volunteer Examiner

Access Control Volunteers

# ARRL Field Day 2020

**ARRL Field Day is always held on the 4th full weekend in June -- 27-28, 2020.**

With 2020 ARRL Field Day – one of the biggest events on the Amateur Radio calendar – just about 12 weeks away, ARRL officials are monitoring this situation with the coronavirus very closely and paying close attention to all of the information and guidance being offered by the CDC's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html).

At its core, Field Day is a local event and an opportunity for local amateur radio clubs to showcase the skills, science and technologies that make radio communication such a wonderful hobby and a valuable public service. Since the impact of the coronavirus outbreak has been very different in different parts of the country, we recommend that all amateur radio clubs participating in Field Day be in regular contact with their local or state public health officials for their advice and guidance on hosting Field Day activities. This also offers an opportunity for amateur radio clubs to bolster or re-establish their relationships with local and state public health and emergency management officials.

Because of the unique circumstances presented this year, this can be an opportunity for you, your club and/or group to try something new. Field Day isn't about doing things the same way year after year - use this year to develop and employ a new approach that is in line with our current circumstances.

Local club officials are the most appropriate people to be making decisions about their specific Field Day programs. We are all concerned about protecting the health and safety of those participating in or attending Field Day activities, and so we trust local club officials to take the appropriate steps to monitor local conditions and make decisions in the best interest of their communities.

ARRL officials strongly believe that following the guidelines of local, state and national health care professionals will help ensure everyone's safety in the coming weeks and months.

**2020 Field Day results will appear in December *QST*.**

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Want to see what **Field Day** is all about? Watch our **2019** **Field Day Public Service Announcement** or view what several groups **uploaded to Youtube** from their 2018 Field Day activities. You can also listen to/download our 30 sec. **radio announcement for 2019 Field Day** (mp3).

Get your 202 Field Day gear from the ARRL Store or click the item below to go there directly. Other items are available.

Field Day Shirt

Field Day Cap

Field Day Pin

## Field Day 2020 — A Time to Adapt

*03/27/2020*

Many individuals and groups organizing events for **Field Day** 2020 have been contacting ARRL for guidance on how to adapt their planned activities in this unprecedented time of social distancing and uncertainty.

"Due to the unique situation presented this year, this can be an opportunity for you, your club, and/or group to try something new," ARRL Contest Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, said. "Field Day isn't about doing things the same way year after year. Use this year to develop and employ a new approach that is in line with the current circumstances."

Social distancing and state and local requirements very likely will impact just how — and even whether — you are able to participate in Field Day this year. ARRL continues monitoring the coronavirus situation, paying close attention to information and guidance offered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (**CDC**). If social distancing means that Class A with a 30-member team set up in a city park won't work this year, then it's time for a Plan B. Part of the Field Day concept has always been adapting your operation to the situation at hand. At its heart, Field Day is an emergency communication demonstration. Field Day rules are flexible enough to allow individuals and groups to adjust their participation and strategies in a way that still addresses their needs while being fun. Some possibilities:

- Encourage club members to operate from their home stations on emergency power (Class E).
- Use the club's repeater as a means for individual participants to keep in touch during the event.
- Family members interested in operating Field Day and unable to participate as part of a larger group may want to consider setting up a portable station in the backyard with a temporary antenna.

One big impact this year will be a decline in public visibility and any interaction with the visitors. Prudence may dictate dispensing with the ham radio PR table to attract passersby, should you set up in a more public location. It's okay not to score all the bonus points you may have attempted in the past. Local and served agency officials may be unwilling to visit, which is understandable under the circumstances. Do be sure to reach out to them as part of your preparations and remind them that you look forward to continuing your working relationship with them in the future.

The impact will differ from place to place, so ARRL recommends that all amateur radio clubs participating in Field Day stay in regular contact with local or state public health officials for their advice and guidance on hosting Field Day activities.

Demonstrating an understanding of the health crisis we all face and your willingness to adapt will show that you and your club or group are good working partners with local or served agencies.

"With any emergency preparedness exercise, it's not about adapting the situation to your operation, it's about adapting your operation to the situation that presents itself," Bourque said. "Try something different. Learn something new about how you prepare. It may be a challenge, and you may have to ask yourself if you're up to the challenge. We hope to hear you on the air over the June 27 – 28 weekend." — *Thanks to Paul Bourque, N1SFE, and Dan Henderson, N1ND*

# Sachse Amateur Radio Association Weekly Repeater Net Script

**Version: 6.0 - March 1, 2020**

Good evening and welcome to the "*Ham Radio in Sachse*" Weekly Information Net. My name is (*name, call sign*), and I will be your net control this evening. ***(pause)*** This net is heard every Wednesday evening at 8:00pm on the N5LOC repeater, on frequency 145.250, using a PL tone of 141.3. All licensed amateurs are invited and encouraged to participate, whether you are a club member or guest. ***(pause)***. This is a Directed Net. Please do not transmit unless directed to do so by Net Control. If the net should go down, everyone should switch to simplex frequency 146.400, with no PL tone or offset. Also, if at any time, you have an emergency to report, break in by saying "Priority" or "Emergency" followed by your call sign and the net will stand by. An emergency is defined as the imminent threat to life or property. **Is there any emergency, priority or time sensitive traffic at this time?** ***Pause***

**Check-Ins:**
We will begin by taking check-ins, three at a time. If you would like to check into this net, please give your call sign phonetically, your name and repeat your Call Sign alphanumerically slowly, so Net Control can write it down. I will take three check-ins now.
(*write down and read back call signs of check ins*). (Remember: Echo Link users (if any) need a few extra seconds to respond). (You might ask if there are any Echo Link users who would like to check-in.)

**Club Announcements:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Our first topic will be announcements from club officers. Any club officer on the net with an announcement, please give your call sign now.

**Member & General Comments:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Our next topic is member & general comments. Any member of the Sachse Amateur Radio Association, or anyone else on this net, who would like to make a comment, please give your call sign now.

**Tech Talk:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Now it is time for Tech Talk. You might ask any questions you have of a technical nature regarding amateur radio or computers. You might share any information or comments that you think would be valuable for the group. If anyone has an item for Tech Talk, please give your call sign now.

**Swap Shop:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
The next topic is Swap Shop. Anyone wishing to buy, sell, trade, or give away items related to ham radio or computers is invited to do so. Please do not haggle over price on the air. If anyone has an item for Swap Shop, please give your call sign now.

**Education:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Now we would like to know if anyone has an idea for an Education Presentation. Anyone who wants to suggest an item for a future presentation, or who has a presentation to share this evening, please give your call sign now.

**How Was Your HAM Week:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Now for the fun part of our hobby, "***How Was Your HAM Week***". This exercise allows any station to share anything related to HAM Radio. Example topics can be "DX'ing Observations", "Experiences", "Challenges", "Lesson-Learn with your equipment", "Victories on a project" or even something you have learned from a "not so successful project". Whether you are a member or guest, this exercise is voluntary. No station is under obligation to share anything. As your Net Control, I will start by briefly sharing my "Ham Week". (Share something you recently did.) If any station would like to share their "Ham Week", simply give your Call Sign and Net Control will recognize your station and give you the platform to share. (*Net Control – provide positive feedback on their topic.)*

**Late Check-Ins:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Before we end this Net, I would like to take late check-ins. If there are any late check-ins, whether RF or Echo Link, please give your call sign and name slowly and clearly. (*write down and read back each call sign*).

**Last Call:**
This is now the last call for any station that might have any comments? Please give your call sign.

**Wrap-Up:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
This concludes the "Ham Radio in Sachse" Weekly Information Net. If you would like more information about the Sachse Amateur Radio Association, please visit our web site at www.sachseradio.org. This is (*call sign*) and we now return the N5LOC repeater to its normal use.

# Sachse Amateur Radio Association Simplex Net Script

**Version: 6.0 - March 1, 2020**

Good evening and welcome to the "*Ham Radio in Sachse*" Simplex Net. My name is (*name, call sign*), and I will be your net control this evening. This net is heard every 2nd and 4th Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm on frequency 146.40 Simplex. Therefore, there is no need for an offset or PL tone. All licensed amateurs are invited and encouraged to participate, whether you are a club member or guest. The purpose of this net is to practice scenarios that might cause communication difficulties. This is a Directed Net. Please do not transmit unless directed to do so by Net Control. As I recognize check-ins, please make a note of check-ins you did not hear, and check-ins that were not clear. If at any time, you have an emergency to report, break in by saying "Priority" or "Emergency" followed by your call sign and the net will stand by. An emergency is defined as the imminent threat to life or property. **Is there any emergency, priority or time sensitive traffic at this time?** ***Pause***

**Check-Ins:**
We will begin by taking check-ins, three at a time. If you would like to check into this net, please give your call sign phonetically, your name and repeat your Call Sign alphanumerically slowly, so Net Control can write it down.I will take three check-ins now.
(*write down and read back call signs of check ins*). (Remember: There is no need for Echo Link on simplex, since that is a function of the repeater).
When there are no more check-ins, ask if anyone was not able to hear all the check-ins.
You may have to pick a relay person for the night.
If you had to pick a relay person or persons, then remember to stop after each conversation and have the relay person pass that information on.

**Club Announcements:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Our first topic will be announcements from club officers. Any club officer on the net with an announcement, please give your call sign now.

**Member & General Comments:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Our next topic is member & general comments. Any member of the Sachse Amateur Radio Association, or anyone else on this net, who would like to make a comment, please give your call sign now.

**Special scenario;** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
(If there is a special scenario for practice, explain the scenario.)
The scenario for tonight is …

(If there isn't a special scenario, ask for suggestions of possible scenarios to practice on future simplex nets.)
If anyone has a possible scenario we can practice in the future, please give your call sign now.

**Signal Reports:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
I will ask each of you for a signal report on the participants, including net control. For example; how did net control sound. Was net control loud and clear, or was net control low and unreadable. Please use the plain language radio checks provided on the Sachse Radio web page. I will now go down the list of check-ins so everyone can give their response.
(Net control starts.)

**Participants information:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Now I will ask each check-in to report their general location, stationary or mobile, power level, and any other information you think that is affecting your broadcast. For example; Wylie, stationary, 50 w, I am at a very low elevation. This will help us learn the areas where problems with communication will probably occur.

**Late Check-Ins:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
Before we end this Net, I would like to take late check-ins. If there are any late check-ins, please give your call sign and name slowly and clearly. (*write down and read back each call sign*).
When there are no more late check-ins, ask each new check-in for their information; location, etc.
Then ask previous check-ins who could not hear the late check-ins, or heard the late check-ins but were low and unreadable.
Remind the late check-ins to make note of previous check-ins they can not hear or are low and unreadable.

**Last Call:**
This is now the last call for any station that might have any comments? Please give your call sign.

**Wrap-Up:** ***Now is a good time for Net Control to ID.***
This concludes the "Ham Radio in Sachse" Simplex Net. If you would like more information about the Sachse Amateur Radio Association, please visit our web site at www.sachseradio.org. This is (*call sign*) and we now return this frequency to its normal use.

**Do you need to join or renew your membership in the Sachse Amateur Radio Association?**
**Print this page, fill it out, and bring the form to the next club meeting.**
**Sachse Amateur Radio Association Membership Application**

Sachse Amateur Radio Association Sachse, Texas 75048-3696 www.sachseradio.org kf5nbo@gmail.com

**Type of Application: New Member** ☐ **or Renewal** ☐ **Date:**_____

**Your Call Sign:**_____ **Your License Class:**_____

**Your Name:**_____ **Spouses Name:**_____

**Address:**_____

**City:**_____ **State:**_____ **Zip:**_____

**Home Phone:**_____ **Work Phone:**_____

**Cell Phone:**_____ **Email:**_____

**Membership Types:** Please check only one option below:

☐ **Regular:** A regular member shall be any FCC licensed amateur radio operator who does not fall under the special provision of an associate or student membership. Regular member dues are $25.00 per year unless prorated (see below).

☐ **Family:** A family membership shall be any FCC licensed amateur radio operators and non-licensed family members interested in amateur radio who live in the immediate household. Family member dues are $30.00 per year unless prorated (see below).

☐ **Associate:** An associate member shall be any person maintaining membership to support the association but who does not hold a license as a radio amateur. Associate member dues are $10.00 per year and are not prorated.

☐ **Student:** A student member shall be any FCC licensed amateur radio operator who is currently enrolled as a full time student, is 18 years of age or younger, and is not otherwise eligible to be included in a family membership. Student member dues are $10.00 per year and are not prorated.

If selecting Family membership, please list the family members covered by this application.

**Name:**_____ **Email:**_____ **Call Sign (if any):**_____ **Lic Class:**_____

**Name:**_____ **Email:**_____ **Call Sign (if any):**_____ **Lic Class:**_____

**Membership Dues:** (Please check only one)

Dues are initially paid upon joining the association. Renewal dues are paid no later than the September meeting each year. A new application must be submitted each year as well. Dues are reduced (prorated) for Regular and Family members (only) who join or renew their membership after Dec 31st:

☐ Joining Sep 1 thru Dec 31, pay $25.00 for Regular dues, or $30.00 for Family dues.
☐ Joining Jan 1 thru Mar 31, pay $18.75 for Regular dues, or $22.50 for Family dues.
☐ Joining Apr 1 thru Jun 30, pay $12.50 for Regular dues, or $15.00 for Family dues.
☐ Joining Jul 1 thru Aug 31, pay $6.25 for Regular dues, or $7.50 for Family dues.

**TOTAL DUE: $**_____

Are you a current member of the ARRL? ☐ YES or ☐ NO (please chose one).

By submitting this application, either by hand or any electronic means, you hereby agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Sachse Amateur Radio Association.

**Signature:**_____